

Samajam, they would do the needful at the proper time. It would at least be sufficient if the Taluk Samajam was consulted as to the time when the bunds should be put up.

(6) The ryots should be permitted to remove shrubs and bushes from the Vedagiri Reserve for *punja* cultivation.

(7) A canal should be cut from Vempallithodu to the paddy fields west of Kanakkari. A portion of the cost and interest on the capital outlay could be realised from the ryots along with the land tax.

(8) The H. G. E. school for boys at Kaduthuruthi was held in a temporary shed which was not strong enough. A building should be constructed for locating the school at an early date.

(9) The L. G. E. school for girls at Kaduthuruthi should be raised to an H. G. E. school.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

151. Desirability of partitioning the Chengannur taluk into two taluks with Pathanamthitta as the head-quarters of one of them.

Mr. Varghese Kathanar (Member, Chengannur taluk) said that the subject of partitioning the Chengannur taluk into two taluks had been brought up at more than one session of the Assembly. At one time the eastern portion of the taluk was unexplored and uninhabited and so the head-quarters was fixed at Chengannur which was on the western end of the taluk. Since then the eastern portion had grown in importance. The enterprising European planters had opened many valuable estates in the Eastern *pakuthis*. Following them, many natives of the taluk also cultivated the lands registered in their names as *pudural* and lived in the eastern parts. They had to travel a distance of 25 to 35 miles to reach head-quarters to transact their business. There were extensive areas of *pudural* lands still available for registry in the eastern parts. The Tahsildar was not able to supervise the *pudural* registries effectively. The population was also increasing. The money transactions from the Government offices at Pathanamthitta were conducted in the Kunnathur treasury, on account of the difficulty of carrying treasure to the Chengannur treasury. The revenue of the taluk had also largely developed in recent years. There was a Magistrate's Court at Pathanamthitta. The additional expenditure in forming another taluk with Pathanamthitta as the head-quarters would not be much. With the formation of the proposed new taluk, there would be a substantial increase in *pudural* registry. That was sure to bring an appreciable revenue to the Government. The people were even prepared to incur the burden of an extra tax, if the above boon were granted. The difficulties to which the people were put had been realised by responsible officers of the State, including the Dewan. The Member prayed, therefore, that the Chengannur taluk be divided into two taluks and that the head-quarters of the new taluk be fixed at Pathanamthitta. He also suggested that the territorial jurisdiction of the new taluk might comprise the *pakuthis* of Pathanamthitta, Ranni, Kumpazha, Elanthoor and Omallur of the present Chengannur taluk, Vallikode *pakuthi* of the Kunnathur taluk, and Mallappuzhacheri and Cherukol *pakuthis* of the Tiruvalla taluk.

Dewan's reply.—As stated by me in reply to the representation at the last session of the Assembly, the Government feel that the partition of the Chengannur taluk into two is necessary. But, owing to financial considerations, it has not been possible to carry out the proposal. The question will receive consideration in due time.

152. Desirability of partitioning the Peermade taluk into two taluks, with Kanjirappalli as the head-quarters of one of them.

Mr. Mathai Thoma (Member, Peermade taluk) said that it was desirable to split the present Peermade taluk into two taluks with Kanjirappalli as the head-quarters of one of them. He proposed that the jurisdiction of the new taluk might comprise the *pakuthis* of Kanjirappalli, Chirakkadavu, Cheruvalli, Manimala and Poonjar. Those five *pakuthis*, though at present included in the Peermade taluk, resembled Central Travancore more or less in respect of climatic conditions and were